

An important feature of the second embodiment of the invention is the use of a container 12 that has top and bottom portions 14, 16 with height dimensions HT, HB that meet specific criteria. The bottom portion 16 has a height dimension HB that is relatively shallow so that a top surface of the growing medium 8 placed in the bottom portion 16 is closely adjacent to the interface 18. This relative positioning is perhaps best seen in Fig. 4. The top portion 14 has a height dimension HT that is sufficient so that, when the container 12 is in its closed position and the medium 8 is in the bottom portion 16 with the plants in the seedling stage extending upwardly therefrom, the plants 2 are freely received in and protected by the top portion 14. This relationship is illustrated by Figs. 3 and 4. The term "freely received" is intended to be understood as meaning received into the top portion 14 without undue crowding and without the tops of the plants 2 being damaged by the top wall of the container 12.

REMARKS

In the Response filed in the above-identified application on June 24, 2002, the first sentence of the first full paragraph on page 10 of the description was amended. Only this sentence was set forth in the clean copy and the mark-up copy of the amendments. The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated July 13, 2002, requires

that a clean and mark-up copy of the entire paragraph be submitted. This Supplemental Response is being filed to comply with that requirement.

It is submitted that both the clean copy and the mark-up copy of the amendment presented herein are in correct form and that the amendment of the application is now compliant under 37 C.F.R. 1.121. Accordingly, early reconsideration and allowance of the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted:

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The first full paragraph on page 10 of the description has been amended to read:

An important feature of the second embodiment of the invention is the use of a container 12 that has top and bottom portions 14, 16 with height dimensions HT, [HP] HB that meet specific criteria. The bottom portion 16 has a height dimension HB that is relatively shallow so that a top surface of the growing medium 8 placed in the bottom portion 16 is closely adjacent to the interface 18. This relative positioning is perhaps best seen in Fig. 4. The top portion 14 has a height dimension HT that is sufficient so that, when the container 12 is in its closed position and the medium 8 is in the bottom portion 16 with the plants in the seedling stage extending upwardly therefrom, the plants 2 are freely received in and protected by the top portion 14. This relationship is illustrated by Figs. 3 and 4. The term "freely received" is intended to be understood as meaning received into the top portion 14 without undue crowding and without the tops of the plants 2 being damaged by the top wall of the container 12.